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REVIEW OF OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN 2000

Note by the Executive Secretary

- This note supplements the information contained in document E/ECE/1390
- Table 1 contains specific information on the activities of the Regional Advisers
- Table 2 provides a list of workshops, seminars, study tours, training courses and other meetings of an operational nature organized since March 1999 or already planned to be organized in the future. These include events organized directly by ECE and those to which ECE provided a major contribution or support.
- Table 3 summarizes operational activities undertaken for subregional groupings/special initiatives/programmes.
- Table 4 presents operational activities in the Mediterranean.

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Table 1. Activities of the Regional Advisers

Country visited	Purpose
DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND POLICIES	
Armenia	- To consult with governmental officials on launching the South Caucasian Initiative, Yerevan, 22-23 February 2001
Austria	- To participate in the OSCE information sharing meeting on Central Asia, Vienna, 18 July 2000
Azerbaijan	- To consult with governmental officials on launching the South Caucasian Initiative, Baku, 26-27 February 2001
Belgium	- To contribute to the preparatory meeting for the Ministerial Conference on Trade in the Southeast Europe, Brussels, 6 December 2000
Georgia	- To consult with governmental officials on launching the South Caucasian Initiative, Tbilisi, 24-25 February 2001
Germany	- To consult with George C. Marshall European Centre for Security Studies on SPECA and economic strategy for Tajikistan, Garmich, 8-9 March 2000
Kazakhstan	- To service the 4th and 5th PWG sessions of the SPECA project "Development of transport infrastructure and border crossing facilitation", Almaty, 18-19 April 2000 and 3-7 October 2000 - To participate in the Eurasia Economic Summit 2000 and official presentation of SPECA, Almaty, 26-28 April 2000 - To prepare the 1st session of the SPECA Regional Advisory Council, Astana, 12-13 August 2000 - To participate in the Asian Development Bank Conference on Central Asian cooperation in transportation, Almaty, 26-27 September 2000 - To service the 1st session of the SPECA Regional Advisory Council, Almaty, 8 February 2001
Kyrgyzstan	- To service the 4th and 5th PWG sessions of the SPECA project "Rational and efficient use of energy and water resources in Central Asia" (Bishkek, 5-7 April 2000 and 16-17 November 2000) and Workshops on energy and water resources issues, Bishkek, 14-16 November 2000
Russian Federation	- To consult with CIS Economic Council and Intergovernmental Eurasian Coal and Metal Community on SPECA related issues, Moscow, 24 April 2000 - To assist in organising and participate in St.Petersburg Economic Forum, St.Petersburg, 15-19 June 2000 - To consult with Interregional Centre of Banking and Financial Technologies, Moscow, 28-29 September 2000

Country visited	Purpose
Tajikistan	- To service the 3th and 4th PWG sessions of the SPECA project "International Economic Conference on Tajikistan in the regional context of Central Asia", Dushanbe, 22-24 March 2000 and 7-8 November 2000 - To make preparations for the 4th PWG sessions of the SPECA project on Tajikistan, Dushanbe, 2-4 August 2000
Uzbekistan	- To contribute to the International Conference on promoting stability in Central Asia, Tashkent, 15-19 May 2000
ENERGY	
Belarus	- To conduct a last meeting of the project implementation unit of the project "Sustainable forestry management and reduction of adverse environment impacts by using wood and wood residue resources for production of heat power in Belarus"and prepare a final project report; to elaborate a project proposal "Reducing barriers to greenhouse gas emissions mitigation through the use of wood residues for municipal heat and hot water supply in Belarus"; to assist Belarus experts in preparing a first year plan for the project "Energy efficiency investment project development for climate change mitigation and sustainable energy systems", Minsk, 1-8 February 2000 - To participate in putting into operation a first "Turbodetander" in Belarus at the Lukomlskoy Thermal Power Station; to discuss with the UNDP Office a final version of the project proposal "Reducing barriers to greenhouse gas emissions mitigation through the use of wood residues for municipal heat and hot water supply in Belarus" for a GEF grant; to assist Belarus experts in selecting projects to be implemented within the project "Energy efficiency investment project development for climate change mitigation and sustainable energy systems", Minsk, Vitebsk, Mogilev, 16-26 May 2000 - To take part in the 5th Belarusian Energy and Ecology Congress and to deliver a statement on Belarus participation in international energy efficiency activities and joint implementation projects; to select energy efficiency projects for which business plans are to be prepared within the project "Energy efficiency investment project development for climate change mitigation and sustainable energy systems"; to prepare a project document for the PDFB project "Rational utilisation of wood residue resources for heat power production in Belarus", Minsk, Zaslavl, Borovliany, Kedysko, Mogilev, 3-13 October 2000 - To select energy efficiency projects together with the mission of the World Bank within Energy Efficiency Demonstration Zones of Belarus to be financed through the loan provided by the World Bank to the Government of Belarus for implementing energy efficiency measures in the public sector (schools, hospitals and public buildings), Minsk, Zaslavl, Borovliany, Kedysko, 27 November-6 December 2000

Country visited	Purpose
Belarus (continued)	- To launch the project on reducing barriers to greenhouse gas emissions mitigation; to work with the World Bank mission on the development of a project "Improvement of Energy Efficiency in Public Sector of the Republic of Belarus" and to coordinate its implementation with the above project; to discuss with "Danfoss"company its involvement in the development of EEDZ "Kedyshko"; to conduct a preparatory meeting for a workshop to be organised within the project "Energy Efficiency and Energy Security in CIS Countries"; to finalise training programme on financial engineering to be conducted in Belarus within the project "Energy Efficiency Investment Project Development for Climate Change Mitigation" in 2001, Minsk, Polotsk, Vitibsk, Lagoisk, Domzeritsky Kedyshko, 5-16 February 2001
Czech Republic	- To service an ECE/OECD Workshop on enhancing the environment by reforming energy prices, Prague, 14-16 June 2000
Italy	- To participate in the International Forum "Can Advanced Energy Systems Cope with Energy Demands of Asia, OECD-Pacific and CIS?" and to deliver a lecture on the current status and implementation prospects for energy conservation policy in the CIS countries", Como, 4-8 July 2000
Kazakhstan	- To discuss with Kazakh authorities and the UNDP Office a joint implementation of the UNECE project "Energy efficiency investment project development for climate change mitigation", SPECA project "Rational and efficient use of energy and water resources in Central Asia" and GEF project "Removing barriers to energy efficiency in municipal heat and hot water supply", Almaty, 9-11 April 2000 - To participate in the Central Asia sub-regional Workshop on financing of energy efficiency investments, and to make presentation of the SPECA project "Rational and efficient use of energy and water resources in Central Asia", Almaty, 8-12 May 2000 - To start joint implementation of the UNECE project "Energy efficiency investment project development for climate change mitigation", SPECA project "Rational and efficient use of energy and water resources in Central Asia" and GEF project "Removing barriers to energy efficiency in municipal heat and hot water supply" in Almaty, 26-29 September 2000 - To assist Kazakh expert in creating Energy Efficiency Demonstration Zone in the city of Almaty within two projects: "Energy efficiency investment project development for climate change mitigation" and SPECA project "Rational and efficient use of energy and water resources in Central Asia", 20-23 November 2000

Country visited	Purpose
Kyrgyzstan	- To service the 4th and 5th PWG sessions of the SPECA project "Rational and efficient use of energy and water resources in Central Asia", Bishkek, 5-11 April 2000 and 16-17 November 2000 - To start implementation of the SPECA Project "Rational and efficient use of energy and water resources in Central Asia" in accordance with the Project Review Form approved by the 4th PWG session, Bishkek, 20-26 September 2000 - To conduct a Workshop on rational and efficient use of energy resources in Central Asia", Bishkek, 14-16 November 2000
Russian Federation	- To conduct the 3rd meeting of the Ad hoc group of experts for a study to be prepared within the project "Energy efficiency and security in CIS countries"; to discuss with Russian authorities a level of their financial support to the project "Energy efficiency investment project development for climate change mitigation"; to assist Russian experts in preparing a first year plan for the above project, 9-16 February 2000 - To organise a stand of UNECE and Energy Efficiency 2000 Project at the 2nd International Trade Fair for Energy Saving Technology; to deliver two lectures at the seminar "International cooperation and implementation of the state energy efficiency policy in the Russian Federation"; to meet with managers of the company "Negovat" responsible for the implementation of the project "Improvement of energy efficiency in the hospital of Moscow Medical Academy" within the project "Energy efficiency investment project development for climate change mitigation"; to introduce to Russian authorities the SPECA project "Rational and efficient use of energy and water resources in Central Asia", Moscow, 11-18 March 2000 - To conduct the 4th meeting of the Ad hoc group of experts for a study to be prepared within a project "Energy efficiency and security in CIS countries"; to assist Russian experts in selecting energy efficiency projects to be implemented within the project "Energy efficiency investment project development for climate change mitigation", Moscow, 13-16 May 2000 - To assist Russian experts in selecting energy efficiency projects to be implemented within the project "Energy efficiency investment project development for climate change mitigation"; to discuss with the authorities of the Russian Energy Research Institute the content of the study on the rational and efficient use of energy resources in Central Asia" to be worked out within the SPECA project "Rational and efficient use of energy and water resources in Central Asia"; to conduct the 5th PWG meeting on "Energy efficiency and security in CIS countries", Moscow, Nizhny Novgorod, 23-29 October 2000

Country visited	Purpose
Russian Federation (continued)	- To prepare a training course on measures to improve energy efficiency in hospitals of Belarus, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation and Ukraine to be implemented in Moscow Medical Academy within the project "Energy efficiency investment project development for climate change mitigation", 2-6 December 2000
ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SME DEVELOPMENT	
Azerbaijan	- To contribute to and facilitate a BSEC/ECE/KAF Workshop on environmental protection and SMEs, Baku, 29 March-1 April 2000
Belgium	- To discuss within the European Commission and the Committee of the Regions the preparation of the 3rd CEI Summit Economic Forum, and EC participation in UNECE projects, Brussels, 17-18 May 2000
Bulgaria	- To contribute to and facilitate a BSEC/ECE/KAF Workshop on micro credits and credit guarantee funds in promoting SMEs, Sofia, 11-12 May 2000
Croatia	- To contribute to the organisation of the International Conference on technology transfer for economic development, Zagreb, 19-20 June 2000
Georgia	- To contribute to and facilitate a BSEC/ECE/KAF Workshop on SMEs in agro-business and rural development, Tbilisi, 27-29 September 2000
Greece	- To contribute to and facilitate a BSEC/ECE/KAF Workshop on technology transfer and SMEs, Thessaloniki, 29 September-2 December 2000
Hungary	- To contribute to the meeting of the CEI Committee of National Coordinators to launch the preparation of the 3rd CEI Summit Economic Forum, Budapest, 26-28 January 2000 - To conduct consultations with representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Economic Affairs, Social and Family Affairs, Budapest, 27-28 March 2000 - To prepare a Forum on "Best practice in development of entrepreneurship and SMEs in CITs: The Hungarian experience", Budapest, 21-22 September 2000 - To contribute to the Hungarian Quality Conference 2000, Kecskemet, 19-21 October 2000 - To contribute to the 3rd CEI Summit Economic Forum: organization of Ministerial Meeting; adaptation of an SME Declaration; convening panels on Euroregion and organizing "round table" discussion on women's entrepreneurship, Budapest, 20-25 November 2000
Israel	- To contribute and facilitate a Seminar on organizational assistance, support measures and credit facilities for SMEs" organized jointly by the Government of Israel and UNECE, Tel Aviv, 26 February-1 March 2000

Country visited	Purpose
Poland	- To contribute to a Seminar on "Venture capital and SMEs in Poland 2000", Warsaw, 5-7 October 2000
Republic of Moldova	- To have consultations with the Ministry of Economy and Reforms, Ministry of Labour, Social and Family Affairs on the preparation of a project on "Support to Moldovan Government in developing entrepreneurship and business training", Chisinau, 22-26 May 2000
Slovenia	- To contribute to an International Conference on "Legal aspects on SME development and best practice in simplification of SME legal environment" held jointly by the Slovenian Government, CEI Secretariat and UNECE, Maribor, 5-8 April 2000 - To contribute to an International Conference on "Financing SMEs" held jointly by the Slovenian Government, CEI Secretariat and UNECE, Bled, 10-13 October 2000
United Kingdom	- To contribute to the meeting of the CEI Committee of National Coordinators at the EBRD HQ on the preparation of the 3rd CEI Summit Economic Forum, London, 11-14 April 2000
ENVIRONMENT	
Albania	- To conduct consultations with national authorities and prepare projects under the Stability Pact, Tirana, 20-21 April 2000
Austria	- To conduct consultations on the preparation of projects under the Stability Pact, Vienna, 12-13 May 2000 - Participate in a "brainstorming"meeting with the OSCE Presidency on OSCE/ECE/SPECA cooperation in Central Asia, Vienna,1 June 2000 - To contribute to an OSCE Seminar "How to optimise inter-institutional relations in the economic and environmental field", 4-6 October 2000
Azerbaijan	- To contribute as a speaker to the BSEC/ECE Workshop on environmental protection and SMEs, Baku, 29 March-1 April 2000
Belgium	- To participate in the meeting of donors to the Stability Pact, Brussels, 29-31 March 2000 - To participate in the 2nd meeting of the REReP Task Force, Brussels, 8-10 November 2000 - To conduct consultations on: cooperation with the World Bank-EU Office for South East Europe; the EU Mediterranean programme; and CEPS (Centre for European Policy Studies), Brussels, 9-10 January 2000
Bosnia and Herzegovina	- To assist in the preparation of a transboundary project for the Cetina river ground water basin between Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mostar, 29 February-1 March 2000

Country visited	Purpose
Croatia	- To assist in the preparation of a transboundary project for the Cetina river ground water basin between Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, Split, Zagreb, 2-5 March 2000 - To conduct consultations with national authorities and prepare projects under the Stability Pact, Zagreb, April 2000 - To organise and assist in conducting a high-level expert meeting on a water environment protection programme in the Adriatic-Ionian region, Split, Zagreb, 6-12 May 2000 - To participate in the 1st meeting of the REReP Task Force; to assist in the preparation of international congress on energy and environment, Cavtat, Zagreb, 3-9 July 2000 - To contribute as a speaker and co-chair the International Congress "Energy and the Environment 2000"; to continue preparation of projects in the Adriatic region, Opatija, Zagreb, 24-31 October 2000 - To assist national authorities in the preparation of: the Ministerial Meeting under the Adriatic-Ionian initiative, a national sustainable development strategy; a water protection programme in the Adriatic-Ionian region; to assist universities in developing training programmes on European environmental legislation and policy, Rijeka, Zagreb, 18.22 January 2001
Egypt	- To have consultations on cooperation in the Mediterranean region and to contribute as a speaker to the conference "Legal aspects for the management of shared water resources", Sharm El-Sheikh, 7-12 June 2000
Finland	- To prepare an Adriatic expert meeting with the HELCOM experts, Helsinki, 9-10 March 2000
Hungary	- To conduct consultations and to participate in the Ministerial Conference on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Regional Environmental Centre (REC) for Central and Eastern Europe, Szentendre, 18-19 June 2000
Italy	- To conduct consultations on the preparation of projects under the Stability Pact, Rome, April 2000 - To participate in and contribute to the Environment Working Table of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in the Adriatic-Ionian Region, Ancona, 18-23 May 2000
Kazakhstan	- To prepare a sub-regional action programme to combat desertification in the Aral Sea basin, Almaty, 16-18 July 2000 - To participate in and contribute to: NIS Water Sector meeting and NIS Ministerial meeting on water management and investments, Almaty, 16-18 October 2000

Country visited	Purpose
Kyrgyzstan	- To contribute to the 4th and 5th PWG sessions of the SPECA project "Rational and efficient use of energy and water resources in Central Asia", Bishkek, 4-8 April 2000 and 14-18 November 2000 - To prepare a sub-regional action programme to combat desertification in the Aral Sea basin, Bishkek, 19-22 July 2000 - To prepare and facilitate a Workshop on water resources in the Central Asia, Bishkek, 19-20 October 2000, 14-16 November 2000
Netherlands	- To contribute to the World Water Forum and to the 2nd meeting of Parties to the ECE Water Convention, the Hague, 18-20 and 22-26 March 2000 - To elaborate forms of cooperation with NMCP under MoU recently signed and to prepare transboundary pilot projects, Lelystad, the Hague, 6-9 December 2000
Monaco	- To contribute as an invited speaker to the X Monaco World Summit "Infrastructure and Privatization Forum", Monte-Carlo, 22-24 November 2000
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	- To contribute to the Meeting of the Environment Ministers of South East Europe under the Stability Pact, Skopje, 15-16 March 2000
Russian Federation	- To contribute to the 5th and 6th Caspian Convention preparatory meetings, Moscow, 20-23 June 2000 and 9-14 October 2000
United Kingdom	- To contribute as an invited speaker to the Conference "Dundee 2000: Equitable and sustainable access to water", Dundee, 10-14 July 2000
INVESTMENT PROMOTION	
Austria	- To make presentation on foreign direct investment policy at the Stability Pact meeting, Vienna, 8-9 November 2000
Bangladesh	- To train Government officials on negotiating concessions and BOT infra-structure projects in cooperation with ESCAP, Dhaka, 13-17 February 2000
Belgium	- To make presentation on the new European valuations standards for real estate and to encourage cooperation between the EU bodies and the economies in transition, Brussels, 11-12 November 2000
Bulgaria	- To make presentation on the case of PPPs in the reconstruction at the International Road Federation Conference, Sofia, 18-20 September 2000

Country visited	Purpose
Czech Republic	- To present the UNECE paper on the commitments made by OSCE Participating States to the annual OSCE Economic Forum, Prague, 11-14 April 2000 - To identify pilot BOT and PPP projects in consultations with the Ministry of Transport, Prague, 15-16 June 2000
Hungary	- To make presentation on the UNECE programme for PPP promotion at the UNIDO Forum on industrial cooperation, Budapest, 11-12 October 2000 - To chair the Symposium on investment promotion agencies and to make presentation at the Seminar on creating viable real estate markets within the 3rd CEI Summit Economic Forum, Budapest, 23-24 November 2000
Japan	- To represent UNECE at the OSCE/Japan Conference on Central Asian Republics, Tokyo, 10-13 December 2000
Poland	- To service the 6th meeting of the Consultative Group of the UNECE Advisory Group for the protection and implementation of the intellectual property rights for investment and a Round table discussion with Polish representatives on the activities of this Group, 8-9 January 2000
Russian Federation	- To discuss with Governmental officials on-going and future cooperation with UNECE, 15-18 November 2000
Slovenia	- To chair a session of, and make presentation at the Conference on Bridging the Gaps, Ljubljana, 20-21 July 2000
United Kingdom	- To discuss UNECE cooperation under the Investment Compact of the Stability Pact with the Foreign and Commonwealth office, London, 6 July 2000 - To make presentation at the Conference on the internationalisation of Public-Private Partnerships, 13-14 September 2000
United States of America	- To make presentation at the UNCITRAL session on public-private partnerships for infrastructure, New York, 26 June-2 July 2000
TRADE FACILITATION	
Albania	- To contribute to the Trade and Transport Facilitation in Southeast Europe (TTFSE) Regional Steering Committee meeting, Tirana, 14 February 2001
Armenia	- To consult with governmental officials on launching the South Caucasian Initiative, Yerevan, 22-23 February 2001

Country visited	Purpose
Austria	- To represent UNECE at the UN Crime Commission session, Vienna, 13-14 April 2000 - To represent UNECE at the UN ad hoc Committee on Convention to Combat Transnational Crime, Vienna, 20-21 July 2000 - To enlist future support of the UN Centre for International Crime Prevention to the SECI Crime Centre, Vienna, 25 October 2000
Azerbaijan	- To consult with governmental officials on launching the South Caucasian Initiative, Baku, 26-27 February 2001
Belgium	- To participate in the Stability Pact Regional Funding Conference and the 2nd meeting of the Stability Pact WG on trade liberalisation and facilitation, Brussels, 29-31 March 2000
Bulgaria	- To act as a keynote speaker at the South East European Trade Initiative meeting, Sofia, 8-9 March 2000 - To contribute to the Trade and Transport Facilitation in Southeast Europe (TTFSE) Regional Steering Committee meeting, Sofia, 28 September 2000 - To act as a keynote speaker at the 4th Balkan Freight Forwarders Congress, Sofia, 17 November 2000.
Croatia	- To act as a speaker on cooperation among international organizations at the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly Conference on the Stability Pact, Dubrovnik, 22 May 2000 and as a technical advisor at the CroatiaPRO meeting, Zagreb, 23 May 2000 - To represent UNECE at the SECI Business Advisory Council and Agenda Committee meetings, and to act as a coordinator/co-chair at the SECIPRO meeting, Zagreb, 4-6 December 2000 - To represent UNECE and SECI at the 1st meeting of the Stability Pact WG on e-SE Europe, 24 January 2001
Czech Republic	- To provide training at the UNDP Czech Development Assistance seminar for future participants in Czech development assistance activities, Prague, 17-20 January 2000
Georgia	- To present the UNECE experience in support of SECI activities at the OSCE Seminar on post conflict rehabilitation, Tbilisi, 26-27 January 2000 - To consult with governmental officials on launching the South Caucasian Initiative, Tbilisi, 24-25 February 2001
Greece	- To participate in the Balkan Business Conference as observer; to represent UNECE at the SECI Business Advisory Council meeting, and to act as a coordinator/co-chair at the SECIPRO meeting, Thessaloniki, 6-11 May 2000
Kazakhstan	- To provide advice at the 4th and 5th PWG sessions of the SPECA project "Development of transport infrastructure and border crossing facilitation", Almaty, 18-19 April 2000 and 3-7 October 2000

Country visited	Purpose
Poland	- To act as a technical advisor at the Polish national trade facilitation committee (POLPRO) meeting, Warsaw, 27 October 2000
Romania	- To represent UNECE at the meetings of the Joint Cooperation Committee which oversees SECI Regional Centre to Combat Crime and Corruption, Bucharest, 11-12 February 2000 and 17-19 July 2000 - To represent UNECE at the Stability Pact Regional Table meeting, Bucharest, 30 May 2000
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	- To represent UNECE and SECI at the organisational and 1st meetings of the Stability Pact WG on trade liberalisation and facilitation, Skopje, 13 January 2000 and 8-10 February 2000 - To represent UNECE at the South East European Cooperation Process meeting, Ohrid, 14 July 2000
Turkey	- To represent UNECE at the SECI WG on cooperation among securities markets, Istanbul, 11 April 2000 - To represent UNECE at the SECI Business Advisory Council and Agenda Committee meetings, and to act as a coordinator/co-chair at the SECIPRO meeting, Istanbul, 25-27 September 2000 - To participate at the Stability Pact Working Table II meeting, Istanbul, 16-17 October 2000
Switzerland	- To discuss cooperation in SE Europe with the Federation of International Freight Forwarders Associations (FIATA), Zurich, 12 July 2000 - To ensure support of the Swiss Customs and Swiss Economic Cooperation Office to SECI Customs reform activities; Bern, 13 September 2000
Uzbekistan	- To contribute to the OSCE/UNODCCP seminar on combating transborder crime and corruption in Central Asia, Tashkent, 19-20 October 2000
Yugoslavia	- To hold discussions with governmental officials on joining SECI, Belgrade, 1 November 2000
TRANSPORT	
Austria	- To consult with the SECI Coordinator on recent developments in SECI PWG on transport and to discuss a Joint Statement of cooperation with the Stability Pact, Vienna, 20 June 2000
Belgium	- To review and discuss further directions with EC DG Transport and Energy on the Pan-European transport corridors and areas at the 2nd coordination meeting, Brussels, 7 December 2000
Bulgaria	- To discuss the programme of work and future role of the SECI PWG on transport, Sofia, 16-17 March 2000 - To contribute to the 6th meeting of the SECI PWG on transport, Sofia, 18-19 May 2000

Country visited	Purpose
Bulgaria (continued)	- To contribute to the 7th ad hoc WG meeting of the SECI project on the "Reduction of border stopping time of shuttle trains", Dobrinishte, 9-10 November 2000
Croatia	- To contribute to the 1st expert meeting on Adriatic-Ionian Highway project under Stability Pact and to assist in the formulation of the work plan and strategy of the project, Dubrovnik, 17 January 2000
Czech Republic	- To provide direct advice to the Ministry of Transport on ECE transport legal instruments, priorities and implementation, and to brief on regional initiatives, Prague, 21-22 June 2000
Greece	- To contribute to the 1st WG meeting on harmonization of institutional aspects of transport and customs procedures of the Black Sea PETrA project, Alexandroupolis, 25-26 May 2000 - To contribute to the consultative meeting and the 2nd expert meeting on Adriatic-Ionian Highway project under the Stability Pact, Athens, Ioannina, 26-29 September 2000 - To assist in the formulation of the work plan and its implementation at the 2nd WG meeting on harmonization of institutional aspects of transport and customs procedures of the Black Sea PETrA project; to consult with the Black Sea Trade and Development Bank, Thessaloniki, 6-7 November 2000
Kazakhstan	- To service the 4th and 5th PWG sessions of the SPECA project "Development of transport infrastructure and border crossing facilitation", Almaty, 18-19 April 2000 and 3-7 October 2000 - To discuss with the Ministry of Transport and Communications on implementation of the European Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries (AGR) and the European Agreement on Main International Railway Lines (AGC) standards in the country, Almaty, 20 April 2000 - To brief the Ministry of Transport and the International Road Transport Carriers Association) KAZATO on recent international transport initiatives, Almaty, 27 November 2000
Republic of Moldova	- To represent UNECE at the 2nd meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC member States and to have consultations with the Ministry of Transport, Chisinau, 25-27 April 2000
Russian Federation	- To consult the Ministry of Transport on the preparation of the 2nd International Euro-Asian Conference on Transport in St.Petersburg and to promote transport legal instruments, Moscow, Yekaterinburg, 31 July-3 August 2000 - To assist in the organisation of the 2nd International Euro-Asian Conference on Transport and preparation of Final Declaration, St.Petersburg, 1 September 2000

Russian Federation (continued)	- To address the 2nd International Euro-Asian Conference on Transport and draft a Final Declaration, St.Petersburg, 12-13 September 2000
Slovakia	- To provide direct advice to the Ministry of Transport on ECE transport legal instruments, priorities and implementation, and to brief on regional initiatives, Bratislava, 3-4 April 2000
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	- To represent UNECE at the 2nd meeting of the Stability Pact Working Table II on Economic Reconstruction, Development and Cooperation, Skopje, 10-11 February 2000
Turkey	- To contribute to the 1st and 2nd WG meeting on transport infrastructure related to ports and hinterland connections of the Black Sea PETrA project; Ankara, 3 February 2000 and Istanbul, 28 March 2000 - To contribute to the Meeting of the BSEC WG on Transport, to assist in establishing a BSEC Transport Action Plan, and to address the MoU on the facilitation of road transport of goods in the BSEC region, Istanbul, 12 December 2000
Ukraine	- To present a paper on Towards improved transport in the Black Sea region and the UNECE role at the Conference on business opportunities in the Black Sea region, Yalta, 7-10 September 2000
Uzbekistan	- To provide direct advice to the Ministry of Transport on ECE transport legal instruments, priorities and implementation, and to brief on regional initiatives, Tashkent, 29 November-1 December 2000
STATISTICS	
Albania	- To advise on the preparation for 2001 population and housing census, Tirana, 11-12 December 2000
Luxembourg	- To participate at the meeting of Chief Statisticians of EU member countries and Eurostat; to discuss ECE/Eurostat cooperation on providing technical assistance to SE Europe, CIS and Mediterranean countries, Luxembourg, 22-23 November 2000

Table 2. Workshops, seminars, study tours, training courses and other meetings of operational nature

Division	Title
Energy	1. Workshops on energy efficiency investment project development for climate change mitigation, Geneva, Switzerland, 13-14 January and 28-29 February 2000 2. Seminar on international cooperation and implementation of the state energy efficiency policy in the Russian Federation, Moscow, Russian Federation, 13-14 March 2000 3. Mediterranean Gas and Power 2000 Conference: trade and convergence in a changing region, Tunis, Tunisia, 11-12 April 2000 4. ECE /OECD Workshop on financing the environment by reforming energy pricing, Prague, Czech Republic, 14-16 June 2000 5. Sub-regional Workshop on financing of energy efficiency investments in Central Asia, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 11-12 May 2000 6. International Forum on "Can Advanced Energy Systems Cope with Energy Demands of Asia, OECD-Pacific and CIS?", Como, Italy, 5-8 July 2000 7. 5th Belarusian Energy and Ecology Congress, Minsk, Belarus, 4-6 October 2000 8. Workshop on rational and efficient use of energy resources in Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 14-16 November 2000
Environment and human settlements	1. Workshop on integrated coastal area management (Mediterranean Action Plan), Toulon, France, 10-12 January 2000 2. Workshop on housing finance, Timisoara, Romania, 30 January-1 February 2000 3. Workshop on the experience of Parties and non-Parties to the UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in implementing the obligations of the Convention through bilateral and multilateral agreements or arrangements, Oegstgeest, Netherlands, February 2000 4. Workshop on the database under the UNECE EIA Convention, Warsaw, Poland, February 2000 5. Workshop on enforcement of legal environmental instruments, development of environmental economic instruments and incentives, improvement in the functioning of environmental inspections, Yerevan, Armenia, 27 March 2000 6. Workshop on public/private sector relationship in the establishment of land registration systems, Tirana, Albania, 30-31 March 2000 7. Workshop on environmental protection and SMEs, Baku, Azerbaijan, 30-31 March 2000 8. Workshop on needs for future revisions of protocols and strategies on transboundary air pollution, Stockholm, Sweden, 10-12 April 2000 9. Workshop on control options/techniques to abate heavy metal and persistent organic pollutant emissions from stationary sources, Prague, Czech Republic, 26-28 April 2000

Division	Title
Environment and human settlements (continued)	10. Sub-regional Workshop on implementation of the UNECE Aarhus Convention in Central Asia, Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, 5-8 May 2000 11. UNECE/WHO/EURO Conference on sustainable water management and health, Moscow, Russian Federation, 1 June 2000 12. Workshop on mapping air pollution effects on materials, including stock at risk, Stockholm, Sweden, 14-16 June 2000 13. ECE /OECD Workshop on financing the environment by reforming energy pricing, Prague, Czech Republic, 14-16 June 2000 14. Workshop on UNECE Environmental Conventions, Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 19-22 June 2000 15. Workshop on public participation in a transboundary context under UNECE EIA Convention, Moscow, Russian Federation, June 2000 16. Workshop on recent EIA developments and links with other Conventions, Rome, Italy, July 2000 17. Workshop on monitoring tailor-made III under the UNECE Water Convention, Nunspeet, Netherlands, 25-28 September 2000 18. Workshop on public participation and health aspects in strategic environmental assessment, Szentendre, Hungary, 23-24 November 2000 19. Sub-regional Workshop on implementation of the UNECE Aarhus Convention in the south Caucasus region, Tbilisi, Georgia, 11-13 December 2000 20. Workshop on creation of real property markets, Madrid, Spain, September 2000 21. Workshop on rational and efficient use of water resources in Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 14-16 November 2000 22. Workshop on the potential and costs for controlling primary emissions of fine particulate matter, Laxenburg, Austria, 23-24 November 2000 23. Workshop on emission data reporting under the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, The Hague, Netherlands, 29-30 January 2001 24. Workshop on the implementation of volatile organic compounds abatement techniques in the surface-coating and dry-cleaning sectors, Bologna, Italy, 19-21 February 2001 25. Workshop on the measurement and economic valuation of the health effects of air pollution, London, United Kingdom, 19-20 February 2001
Trade	1. Seven workshops/seminars under the project on capacity building to improve trade finance and investment prospects for the Russian Federation's timber sector, Arkhangelsk, St.Petersburg (Russian Federation), and Rotterdam and The Hague (Neiherlands), February-November 2000 2. Trade and investment promotion from a local and regional perspective, Geneva, Switzerland, 2-3 March 2000 3. Workshop on the use of ISO 14000 Environmental Management System Standards in the chemical industry, Budapest, Hungary, 30-31 March 2000 4. Workshop on the changing role of state forests, Sagadi, Estonia, 5-8 April 2000

Division	Title
Trade (continued)	5. Consultative meeting on intellectual property rights, Tallinn, Estonia, 6-7 April 2000 6. Workshop on forestry information systems, Hyytiälä, Finland, 15-20 May 2000 7. Seminar on practical aspects of eliminating obstacles to efficient trade finance in transition economies, Riga, Latvia, 26-27 May 2000 8. Workshop on logistics of sustainable use of biomass, Arkhangelsk, Russian Federation, 4-7 September 2000 9. Study tour in Canada on certification of sustainable forest management in forests and forest industries, eastern Canada, 10-16 September 2000 10. Seminar on competitiveness in industry: trends in steel consumption-responding to market needs, Budapest, Hungary, 11-12 September 2000 11. Seminar on harvesting of non-wood forest products in the Mediterranean region, Manemen, Turkey, 2-8 October 2000 12. Regional Conference on digital economy and Internet enterprise development in Romania and South East Europe, Bucharest, Romania, 10 October 2000 13. Study tour of the steel industry of China, 15-22 October 2000 14. Workshop on sustainable development of marketing of wood and non-wood forest products and services for central and eastern European countries, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, 23-27 October 2000 15. Southeast European Conference on e-commerce, Sofia, Bulgaria, 24-26 October 2000 16. Training workshop for judges and prosecutors on intellectual property rights protection and enforcement, Tartu, Estonia, 25 October 2000 17. Training workshop for judges, prosecutors, Customs and Standards Board on intellectual property rights protection and enforcement, Tallinn, Estonia, 6-7 November 2000 18. Consultative meeting on intellectual property rights, Riga, Latvia, 13-14 November 2000 19. Consultative meeting on intellectual property rights, Vilnius, Lithuania, 16-17 November 2000
Transport	1. ECE/TACIS Seminar on improvement of traffic flows on Pan-European transport corridors II and IX, Kiev, Ukraine, 23-26 May 2000 2. Conference on business opportunities in the BSEC region, Yalta, Ukraine, 7-9 September 2000 3. Second International Euro-Asian Conference on transport, St. Petersburg, Russian Federation, 12-13 September 2000 4. Seminar on the application of the TIR Convention for Kazakhstan Customs, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 26-27 October 2000
Statistics	1. ECE/OECD Workshops on national accounting issues for countries in transition in central and eastern Europe and in the CIS, Geneva, Switzerland, April 2000 and Paris, France, September 2000

Division	Title
Statistics (continued)	2. ECE/Eurostat/ILO Seminar on measurement of the quality of employment, Geneva, Switzerland, 3-5 May 2000 3. Workshop on integrated statistical information systems, Riga, Latvia, 29-31 May 2000 4. Seminar on statistics for social development: Geneva 2000 and Beyond, Geneva, Switzerland, 27 June 2000 5. ECE/Eurostat/FAO/OECD Seminar on agricultural economic statistics for countries in transition and CIS member countries in cooperation with Eurostat, Luxembourg, 5-7 July 2000 6. Workshop on dissemination of statistical data to the media, Voorburg, Netherlands, 25-27 September 2000 7. Workshop on gender statistics for policy monitoring and benchmarking, Orvieto, Italy, 9-10 October 2000 8. Workshop on statistical data editing, Cardiff, United Kingdom, 18-20 October 2000 9. ECE/Eurostat/OECD Workshops on comparisons of prices (purchasing power parities) in cooperation with the CIS Statistical Committee, Geneva, Switzerland, October 2000 10. Workshop on statistical metadata, Washington D.C., USA, 28-30 Nov 2000 11. Workshop on the management of statistical information technology, Geneva, Switzerland, February 2001
Coordinating Unit for Operational Activities	1. Seminar on organizational assistance, support measures and credit facilities for SMEs, Tel-Aviv, Israel, 27-29 February 2000 2. ECE/BSEC/KAF Workshop on environment protection and SMEs, Baku, Azerbaijan, 30-31 March 2000 3. Seminar on legal aspects of SME development and best practice in simplification of the SME legal environment, Maribor, Slovenia, 6-7 April 2000 4. ECE/BSEC/KAF Workshop on micro credits and credit guarantee Funds, Sofia, Bulgaria, 11-12 May 2000 5. Conference on the Investment Climate for Developing Renewable Energy Sources in Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 18-19 May 2000 6. Conference on technology transfer for economic development, Zagreb, Croatia, 19-20 June 2000 7. ECE/BSEC/KAF Workshop on agro-business and rural development, Tbilisi, Georgia, 28-29 September 2000 8. Seminar on best practice in development of entrepreneurship and SMEs in CITs. The Hungarian experience, Geneva, Switzerland, 1 November 2000 9. Expert meeting on best practice in business advisory, counselling and information services, Geneva, Switzerland, 2-3 November 2000 10. ECE/BSEC/KAF Workshop on technology transfer and SMEs, Thessaloniki, Greece, 29 November - 2 December 2000 11. Regional Workshop on gender and labour markets in transition economies, Warsaw, Poland, 5-17 January 2001

Table 3. Operational activities undertaken for subregional groupings/special initiatives/programmes

Subregional groupings/ special initiatives/ programmes	Activities
Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC)	- In order to establish a basis for closer cooperation work has started to prepare a Cooperation Agreement between ECE and BSEC which would extend cooperation on economic analysis and statistics, protection of the environment, sustainable energy, inland transport, trade, industry and entrepreneurship. - Substantive contribution to the 2nd and 3rd Meetings of the Council of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of BSEC (Chisinau, 27 April 2000 and Bucharest, 20 October 2000), and the Business Opportunities in the BSEC Region Conference (Yalta, 7-9 September 2000). - Joint organization of workshops on SMEs issues with financial support of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation on: environment protection and SMEs (Baku, Azerbaijan, 30-31 March 2000), micro credits and credit guarantee funds (Sofia, Bulgaria, 11-12 May 2000); SMEs in agro-business and rural development (Tbilisi, Georgia, 28-29 September 2000); and technology transfer and SMEs (Thessaloniki, Greece, 29 November-2 December 2000) - Technical assistance to the BSEC Working Group of Transport in the preparation of a BSEC Transport Action Plan and a MoU on the facilitation of road transport of goods in the BSEC region. Promotion efforts were undertaken to speed up the accession to ECE legal instruments by BSEC member States
Central European Initiative (CEI)	- ECE/CEI cooperation continued within the framework of the "ECE/CEI Cooperation Programme on European Integration" under the Cooperation Agreement between ECE and CEI signed in May 1998. Joint promotion of investment opportunities based on the ECE/CEI Project Opportunity Methodology has been undertaken through compiling project portfolio, submitting them to financial institutions and participation in various meetings as well as implementing some of them. - Identification, collection and preparation of project ideas and proposals for presenting to international and local financial institutions have continued. During the year over 100 project proposals have been collected, analysed and processed. To promote the CEI Project Portfolio, 30 financial institutions received the list of the CEI Portfolio and information on specific project proposals. - Work has continued on the project "Micro-financing and advisory services for rural areas in Albania" and technical assistance was provided to the CEI Wholesale Markets Foundation (CEI WMF) in the preparation of a technical assistance project proposal for CEI and EBRD financing.

Central European Initiative (CEI) (continued)	- Support and substantive contribution was made to the annual CEI Summit Economic Forum (Budapest, 22-25 November 2000). A number of ECE staff actively participated in its deliberations through serving as discussion leaders, providing substantive lectures and chairing various meetings. A special publication entitled "Through the Looking Glass" prepared by ECE specifically for this Forum was presented and distributed among the participants. A CEI Declaration on SMEs at the Dawn of the 21st Century which was initiated in ECE was finally adopted at the Ministerial meeting on 24 November 2000. - Substantive ECE contributions were also made to CEI Committee of National Coordinators (Geneva, 6-8 March 2000); CEI Regional Investment Forum 2000 "Economic Infrastructure of Southeast Europe" (Sarajevo, 21-22 March 2000); and CEI Conference on Financing SMEs (Bled, 10-12 October 2000). - Cooperation was also maintained on the promotion of women entrepreneurs, competition law and real estate development (follow-up to the roundtables organised within the CEI Summit Economic Forum in Budapest, 22-25 November 2000); and best practices in business incubators as complementary activity to the CEI Business Advisory Services - BAS Project
Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)	- Cooperation has continued within the framework of the Memorandum of Working Relationships signed between ECE and the Interstate Economic Committee of the Economic Union of CIS in April 1997. Consultations with the Executive Secretary of the CIS were held in April and September 2000 on the issues of cooperation between the two organisations after the restructuring the CIS and its governing bodies, including CIS and ECE priorities and the main prospective areas of cooperation, in particular on SPECA. - Contacts have continued with the CIS Interstate Euro-Asian Coal and Metals Community on the issues of technical cooperation in the utilisation of methane gas in the coal mines for production of electric energy and the CIS Interstate Council on Standardisation, Certification and Metrology. Presentations of the UNECE standardisation-related activities were made at the sessions of this Council held in Georgia (Tbilisi, June 2000) and Ukraine (Lvov, October 2000). - Work has continued on the second phase of the project on energy efficiency and security in CIS. A meeting of the group of CIS experts was organised together with secretariat of the CIS Executive Committee in Geneva on 31 October-2 November 2000. Three meetings of the ad hoc Project Group for the preparation of a study "Energy Conservation as a Factor in Increasing the Energy Security in the Member-States of the Commonwealth of Independent States" were held in Moscow on 10-11 February, 15-16 May and 26-27 October 2000 . A final version of the study was approved by 11 Governments of the participating countries and presented to the 10th session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy on 31 October 2000.

Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (SECI)	- Implementation of the following projects has been under way: (a) Border crossing facilitation - actions to overcome operational difficulties (lead country - Greece) (b) Transport infrastructure development along main international routes (lead country - Bulgaria) (c) Combatting cross-border crime and corruption (lead country - Romania) (d) Commercial arbitration and mediation (lead country - Slovenia) (h) Cooperation among security markets (lead country -Turkey) (g) Interconnection of electricity grids (lead country - The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) - Activities under other projects on energy efficiency demonstration zones network in southeast Europe; interconnection of natural gas networks, diversification of gas supply and improvement of security of supply in southeast Europe; and recovery programme for rivers, lakes and adjacent seas have been largely taken over by the framework of the Stability Pact. - Implementation of these projects were regularly reviewed at the meetings of the Agenda Committee and Business Advisory Council. ECE's contribution to the implementation of the projects consisted of the following activities: preparation of project outlines for the Agenda Committee; further elaboration of these outlines for meetings of the working groups; securing the cooperation of other UN bodies and agencies as requested by the Coordinator; provision of advisory services and organization of workshops within available resources; regular consultations with the Coordinator and direct reporting to the Agenda Committee. For each project, several project group meetings have been held. The ECE secretariat contributed to the organization of these meetings, prepared background documents and final reports - Efforts have been made to secure financial support for the projects and the involvement of the business community in their implementation - Participation in meetings on the EU Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe, in particular its Working Table II on Economic Reconstruction, Development and Cooperation - Preparation and updating of priority projects of the SECI Participating States for implementing under the Stability Pact. The implementation of these projects may start as soon as necessary finance is secured
Special Programme for Economies of Central Asia (SPECA)	- Official presentation of SPECA was made on 27 April 2000 in Almaty. Preparatory activities were undertaken for convening the first session of the Regional Advisory Council (RAC) of SPECA to be held on 8 February 2001 in Almaty. - Substantive assistance to the sessions of Project Working Groups (PWG) under the following projects: (a) transport infrastructure and border crossing facilitation - PWG-Transport: Almaty (April and October 2000); (b) rational and efficient use of energy and water resources - PWG-Energo: Bishkek (April and November2000);

Special Programme for Economies of Central Asia (SPECA) (continued)	(c) international economic conference - PWG-Tajikistan: Dushanbe (March and October 2000) - Two workshops on energy and water resources issues were organized under project (b) in Bishkek in November 2000 - The other two projects included in the programme with Turkmenistan (regional cooperation in developing a multi-choice approach to hydrocarbon supply routes through pipelines to the world markets) and Uzbekistan (industrial restructuring with a view to creating internationally competitive manufacturing industries) as lead countries are at early stages of their implementation - SPECA activities were specifically promoted during the following events: the Eurasia Economic Summit 2000 (Almaty, 26-28 April 2000); OSCE Information Sharing Meeting on Central Asia organised by (Vienna, Austria, 18 July 2000); Asian Development Bank conference on Central Asian Cooperation in Transportation (Almaty, Kazakhstan, 26-27 September 2000); and consultations with the Interregional Centre of Banking and Financial Technologies (Moscow, Russian Federation, 29 September 2000).

Table 4. Operational activities in the Mediterranean

Activities
- Following recommendations expressed by the Commission at its last session in May 2000, the following three joint ECE/ECA/ESCWA interregional project proposals have been jointly elaborated: exchange of experience and best practices in alternative approaches to financing new and renewable energy projects; capacity building in trade facilitation and electronic business in the Mediterranean; and water and environment: (a) Under the energy project, proposal on "Alternative approaches to financing new and renewable energy projects" aimed at exchanging experiences and best practices among the countries of Mediterranean region was submitted to the national competent authorities; (b) The project proposal on trade facilitation and electronic business was submitted for funding from the UN Development Account Fund (US$ 600 000 for the biennium 2002-2003); and (c) A project proposal on water and environment with ESCWA as lead organisation was elaborated following the ESCWA Expert Group Meeting held in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, on 8-11 June 2000. Positive contacts were made with a number of relevant international organizations, including MAP-MEDPOL, EU supported SMAP, and the International Initiative on Internationally Shared Aquifer Resources Management Programme (managed by UNESCO, IAH, FAO and ECE). - Operational activities in the Mediterranean region were continued in the field of energy, SMEs, forest industries and statistics. In cooperation with the Tunisian Ministry of Industry and the Tunisian electricity and gas company, the ECE Gas Centre organised the Mediterranean Gas and Power 2000 Conference: Trade and Convergence in a Changing Region, held in Tunis on 11-12 April 2000. The Seminar on organizational assistance, support measures and credit facilities for SMEs was organized by the Israeli Institute and the Small Business Authority of Israel on behalf of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Israel in cooperation with ECE in Tel Aviv (Israel) on 27-29 February 2000. Another seminar on harvesting of non-wood forest products in the Mediterranean region was held in Manemen (Turkey) on 2-8 October 2000. ECE participated in the Workshop on Integrated Coastal Area Management (Mediterranean Action Plan) in Toulon (France) on 10-12 January 2000.